GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2302
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
IMPORT OF FISH
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has considered the objections raised by the fishermen in the country particularly from Kerala as the import will adversely affect them by depressing the price of fish in the market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a)&(b): Government has taken note of the objections made by the fishermen of Kerala through the State Government for the import of fish under the Free Trade Agreement with European Union stating that it would be against the interest of Indian fishermen; hence, should be kept out of the purview of tariff liberalization programme. The sensitivity of any item in all such cases is decided on the basis of economic studies and consultations with the domestic stakeholders and the administrative Ministries/ State Governments, etc. Further, the agreement also prescribes suitable safeguards such as anti-dumping provisions in case of surge in imports leading to the problems of domestic industry.